Prices of bulk drugs and formulations

541. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the Editorial of JALTA DEEP, daily newspaper, dated 21st March, 1986 published both from Jodhpur and Jaipur;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that a number of drug companies have not implemented the prices fixed by Government;

(c) if so, what are the names of such companies and bulk drugs and formulations for which the drug companies have not implemented the prices; and

(d) what are the reasons in each case and what action has been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) to (d) Information to the extent available would be collected and laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha.

Prices of Vitamins

542. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the 'Economic Times' on 5th April, 1986 captioned 'Government Upset with Vitamin Units';

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that Pfizer, Sandoz and Abbott are marketing their preparations at their own prices;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the prices of these medicines are very high; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to implement its fixed prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Government have, based on the judgement of the Bombay High Court, refixed the prices of 52 packs of multivitamin formulations produced by these three companies. As a result of refixation, the prices of 44 packs have come down, there is a marginal increase in price in respect of 7 packs and there is no change in price in respect of one pack. The three manufacturers have since submitted representations against the prices as now fixed.

Violation of Drug Price Control Order

543. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in accordance with provisions of the Drugs Price Control Order, 1979 action against violaters of the provisions of the Order can be taken under the Essential Commodities Act;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a number of drug companies have violated the provisions of the Drug Price Control Order, 1979;

(c) if so, the number of instances which came to the notice of Government;

(d) names of the drug companies along with the details of provisions violated by each; and

(e) what action was taken against each company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) Details of instances which have come to the notice of the Government have already been furnished in reply to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1557 answered on 2nd December, 1985.